



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA,  
PLOT 91, CADASTRAL ZONE, JABI, ABUJA  
FACULTY OF ARTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH  
2022\_1 EXAMINATION

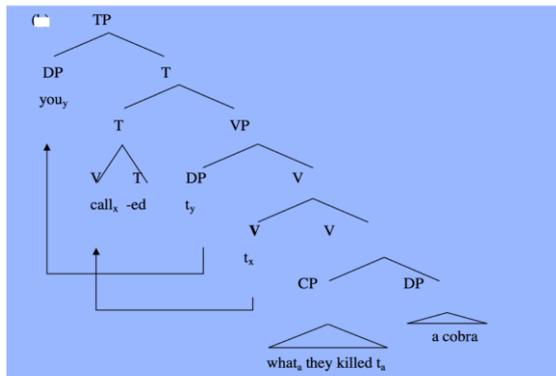
COURSE CODE: ENG421

COURSE TITLE: NEW TRENDS IN SYNTAX

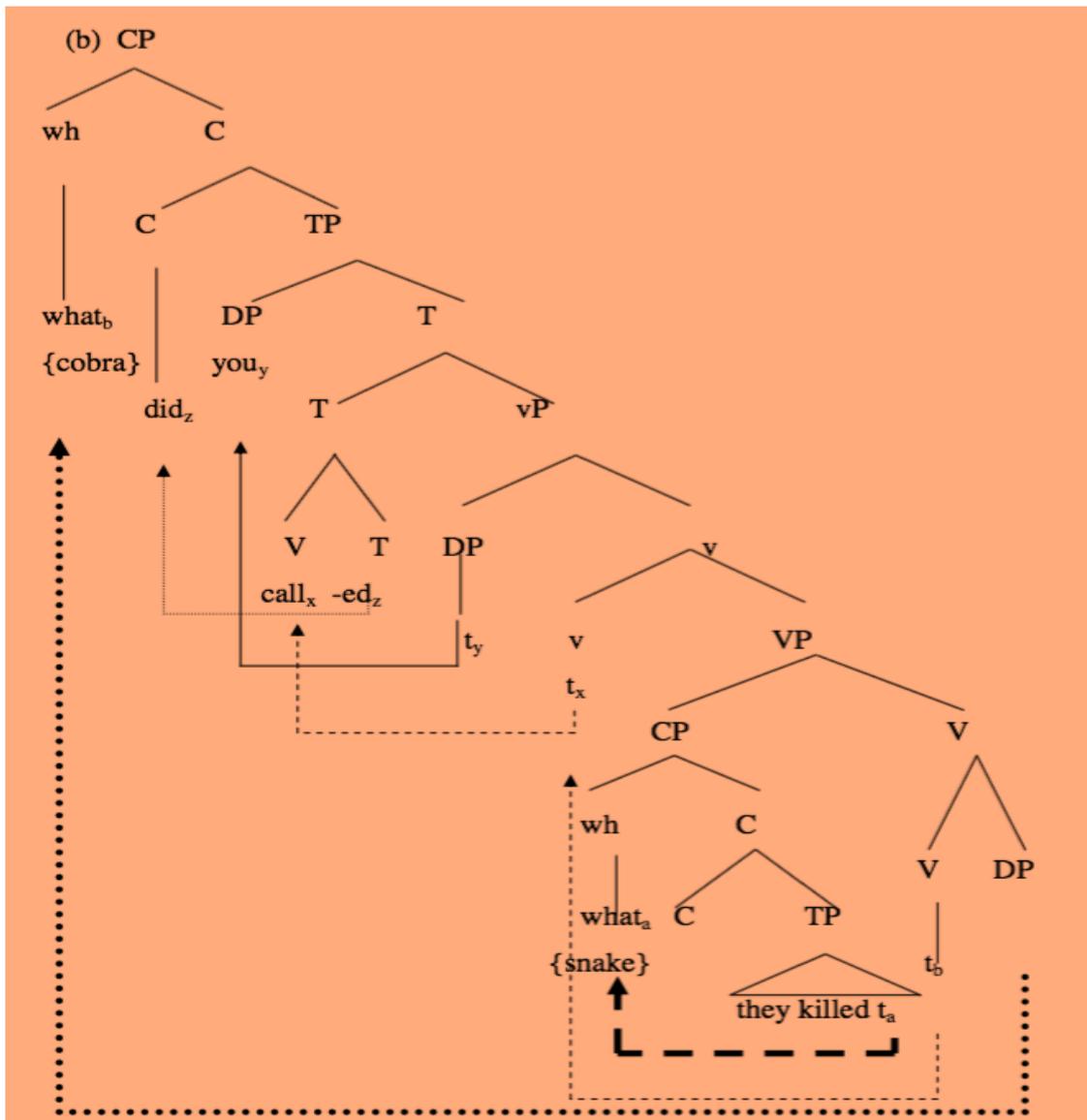
TIME ALLOWED: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTION: Answer Any **3** Questions (*Your correct use of language elements will earn you additional **3 marks** for each question attempted.*)

- Identify and state clearly the major differences between the Minimalist Programme and Government and Binding Syntax. (10 marks)
  - Draw the two diagrams to illustrate these differences between these two models of the Transformational Generative Grammar (TGG) (10 marks)  
[5 marks for each correct diagram] (20 marks)
- Look carefully at the tree diagram below and state the economy of derivation principle that is operational. (5 marks)



- Look at the tree diagram below and state briefly the syntactic function of each arrow in the diagram. (15 marks)



3. (a) Movements of elements in the Minimalist Program are motivated by feature checking activities. State clearly how this works. (5 marks)  
 (b) There are three types of features identified in our discussion in class. Identify these (3 marks) and discuss their operations and how they affect the syntactic process (12 marks). (15 marks) 20 marks
  
4. (a) What is focus construction? (5 marks)  
 (b) Give five examples of focus constructions from your language and translate them into English, indicating the focused elements in your constructions. (15 marks) 20 marks
  
5. (a) Identify five syntactic operations in the Minimalist Program. (5 marks)  
 (b) Discuss each of these and their processes of operation. (3 marks each [15 marks])  
 20 marks